

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment and reconsideration of the present application based on the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. By this amendment, claims 1-5 and 8-11 have been cancelled and claim 6 has been amended. Claim 7 is allowed in the office action. Upon entry of this amendment, independent claims 6 and 7 will be pending in the application.

Allowed Claims

In the Office Action, the Examiner allowed claim 7. Applicants thank the Examiner for noting the allowability of this claim.

Claim Objections

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claim 6 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner further noted that claim 6 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants thank the Examiner for noting the allowable subject matter contained in claim 6. Claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form and includes the limitations of the most recently submitted claims 1-3 and 5. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 6, as amended, is in condition for allowance.

Claim Cancellations

Applicants herein cancel claims 1-5 and 8-11 to facilitate the issuance of a notice of allowance on remaining claims 6 and 7. However, Applicants expressly reserve the right to maintain that the cancelled claims patentably distinguish over the cited references and to argue the allowability of these claims in a continuation application.


Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, and in view of the foregoing arguments, claims 6 and 7 are believed to be in form for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, he is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

If any issues remain which the Examiner feels may be resolved through a telephone interview, s/he is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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